

Georgetown City Council Special Meeting Concerning
With Scott County Fiscal Court
Tuesday July 19, 2011
7:00 pm

Mayor Everette Varney called the special meeting to order. Judge Lusby then stated that twenty five years ago when the inter-local agreements between city and county were established the city and county were very strong because we were working together. Judge Lusby further explained how the inter-local departments were controlled saying that four were controlled by the city and four were controlled by the county. Judge Lusby said that the county has always received the correct payments from the city and that he did not anticipate any future problems. However as the year continues if adjustments need to be made it is his belief the city will pay what has been budgeted. Judge Lusby realizes most of the agreements are not signed by the Attorney General but the city and county have been honoring these agreements for a very long time without that formality.

Mayor Varney stated that the City, County, Chamber of Commerce and Board of Education work well together. Mayor Varney also believes the council worked very hard on the budget saying "they left no stone unturned". Mayor Varney is concerned that we do not have copies of some of the interlocal agreements and some are not signed. Tonight we have come together to discuss some of the appropriations that the city lowered.

Larry Prather asked about the review of inter-locals by the task force that was set up in 2008. Tom Prather was the chair of that committee. Mayor Sames, Marvin Thompson and Mark Singer represented the city Judge Lusby and Bobby Rankin represented the county. Over a six month period twenty inter-local agreements were reviewed. The votes of the committee were not always unanimous but in each case the agreements worked to the city's advantage. He feels it is better for the city to cooperate rather than duplicate services. Mark Singer asked if a report had been published by the task force and was told no. Tom Prather said that a taskforce had been formed to study the merger of the fire departments. Stewart Hughes is serving on this committee and said that the taskforce had studied every station equipment and personnel and that there was no money to be saved except by cutting employees. Mr. Hughes said that in the county's current budget they will take 3.5 million of the reserve. Mr. Hughes stated that in the past the county has made some very hard decisions and this is why they now have a reserve.

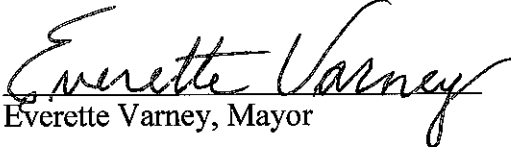
Brad Penn said the city had made difficult decisions as well stating that every line item except dispatch had been cut. Judge Lusby gave an example about the ambulance service having to borrow a vehicle from Lexington and the city had cut their half of a new ambulance out of its budget. Judge Lusby stated the Fiscal Court had to cut employee insurance, sick time and holidays to honor the inter-locals and maintain service. Employees will also be cut through attrition. Mark Singer said that the city had also cut insurance and had to lay off employees. The city also has positions that are not filled and will not be due to budget cuts.

Both the City Council and Fiscal Court agreed that this meeting should have taken place at an earlier time. It was also agreed upon there should be more communication between the Council and Court concerning the inter-locals. Mutual respect is key in working together for the good of the community. Tom Prater said that the inter-local report should be complete in thirty days. Brad Penn asked if Mr. Prather thought the change in the economy would make a difference in the report. Mr. Prather answered no.

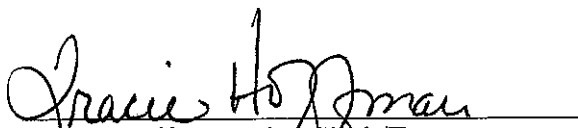
David Livingston suggested that Parks and Recreation and Planning and Zoning could be studied by a committee consisting of Council and Court members. Tom Prather suggested that looking at these departments's end of year reports and audits would be a good place to begin.

Judge Lusby ended the meeting by saying, "Georgetown/Scott County is the best place in the world to live".

APPROVED BY:


Everette Varney, Mayor

ATTESTED BY:


Tracie Hoffman, City Clerk/Treasurer